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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/805,969	03/15/2001	William Ender	ONS00230	3926

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EXAMINER

THAI, HANH B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2161

DATE MAILED: 03/21/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/805,969

Applicant(s)

ENDER ET AL.

Examiner

Hanh B Thai

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on amendment filed December 21, 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 11 and 12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 11 and 12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

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This is in response to amendment filed December 21, 2004.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments filed December 21, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues on pages 11-12: the Marchoili system is a distributed system that allows updating of each regional database at each regional system. This operation is the opposite of updating at central database. Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Marchoili discloses in the abstract and col.5, line 42-col.6, line 10:

“A system for controlling access in multiple regions is provided in which each region comprises one or more sites having building areas to which access is controlled. The system includes multiple regional databases, where each regional database is associated with one of the regions, and a master database storing system information, cardholder information and access control information. A master computer system is coupled to the master database, and a regional computer system, capable of data communication to the master computer system, is coupled to each of the regional databases. Initially, the master computer system downloads the system information and cardholder information from the master database to each of the regional databases, and each regional computer system uploads the access control information from its regional database to the master database to provide the stored access control information for the region at the master database. **Each region operates independently of the master database, and can change (add, modify, or delete) access control information and cardholder information stored in its regional database. The regional computer system of each region periodically uploads to the master database any changes in the access control information of the regional database, and any changes in the cardholder information of the regional database. The master computer system periodically downloads from the master database to each regional database any changes in cardholder information made by other regions. Thus, the system, cardholder, and access control information stored in the master database is maintained identical to the corresponding information at each of the regional databases, and cardholder information changes made at each region are distributed to other regions through the master database.**”

Form the above teaching, Marchoili clearly discloses that the updating at each region operates independently then uploads the updated information to master database “central database”. The master database is updated periodically to maintained identical information at each of the regional databases.

Applicant argues on pages 13-14: “the combined relied on references are silent on a human resources system of record and a financial system of record having access to modify the data within the central directory.” Examiner respectfully disagrees.

As discussed above, the central directory of Marchoili’s system is updated or modified to maintained identical information at each of the regional systems.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Marchoili et al. (U. S. patent no. 6,233,588) in view of Kahn et al. (U. S. Patent no. 6,401,079).

Regarding claim 1, Marchoili discloses an information management system organized to maintain an accurate representation of a list of data objects, comprising:

- a first system of record coupled to receive data objects wherein the data object include employee data (Fig.1-2; col. 5, lns. 42-47, Marchoili). Database 28 corresponds to the system of record;

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- a centralized updating system (16, Fig.2, Marchoili) external to the first system of record and external to the coupled to receive the data objects from the first system of record and coupled to provide the data objects organized into a first list of data objects in a first format at predetermined intervals (col. 9, lns. 2-6) wherein the updating system includes a central directory (database 12, Fig.2) containing a first database (abstract; col.5, ln. 42 to col. 6, ln. 11, Marchoili).
- A security system external to the central directory, the security system containing a second database that includes a portion of the data of the data of the first database wherein the second database is updated from the first database at the predetermined intervals (col. 8, lns. 38-54, Marchoili). The regional server corresponds to the security system external to the central directory (database 12, Fig.2).

Marchoili, however, does not disclose the financial system of record receiving financial data. Kahn, on the other hand, discloses a centralized back-end service accesses to a central database or a system of record including financial data (see abstract; col.5, lns.18-23, Kahn). It would have been obvious to apply the financial system of Kahn into the system of Marchoili because it provides the flexibility and facilitate control data process (col. 6, lns. 24-31, Kahn).

Regarding claim 2, Marchoili/Kahn combination discloses a graphical interface coupled to provide a data input mechanism to the first system of record (col. 12, lns. 6-10, Kahn) and coupled to provide a data output mechanism from the first system of record; and a communication interface coupled to provide two-way communication between the first system of record and the centralized updating system (col. 13, ln. 58 to col. 14, ln. 1, Kahn).

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Regarding claim 3, Marchoili/Kahn combination discloses the centralizing updating system comprises a file transfer mechanism coupled to transfer the first list of data objects and coupled to transfer the second list of data objects at the predetermined intervals (see col. 8, lines 1-7, Marchoili).

Regarding claim 4, Marchoili/Kahn combination discloses a first directory server (master server 16, Fig.2, Marchoili) coupled to receive the first list of data objects and coupled to provide the second list of data objects; and a second directory server (regional server 18, Fig. 2, Marchoili) coupled to receive the first list of data objects from the first directory server to maintain redundant sets of the first list of data objects (see col.5, line 64 to col. 6, line 2, Marchoili). Please note that maintaining database replication of records reads on the maintaining redundant sets of data object.

3. Claims 5-8 and 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Marchoili et al. (U. S. patent no. 6,233,588) in view of Man-Hak Tso (U. S. Patent no. 5,706,509) in further view of Kahn et al. (U. S. Patent no. 6,401,079).

Regarding claim 5, Marchoili discloses an information management system coupled to maintain synchronization (see col.7, line 50 to col. 8, line 7, Marchoili) of first data objects contained within a first storage area (database 16, Fig. 2, Marchoili) to second data objects contained within a second storage area (database 18, Fig.2), the information management system comprising:

- a plurality of devices for use by users of the information management system (see the plurality of devices of the plurality of the regions:1-N, Fig.2 of Marchoili).

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- a central directory (directory on the master server 16, Fig.2, Marchoili) having the first storage area (database 12, Fig.2) coupled to receive the first data objects and coupled to store the data objects into the first storage area wherein the plurality of devices have access to information stored within the central directory;
- a security system (19, Fig.2) external to the central directory, the security system having the second storage area that includes the second data objects wherein the second data objects include at least a portion of information that is also within the first data object (see col. 5, lines 31-40, Marchoili);
- a human resources system of record (26, Fig.2) external to the central directory and external to the security system wherein the human resources system of record has access to modify employee data within the central directory (see abstract; col. 5, lines 42-61; Fig.2 and corresponding text, Marchoili);
- a system of record (“Regional #1 Database”) external to the central directory, external to the human resources system of record, and external to the security system wherein the system of record has access to modify data within the central directory including employee asset data (abstract and col.5, line 42-col.6, line 10).
- an event system coupled to detect a first set of all changes made to the first data objects (see col. 5, line 62 to col. 6, line 11, Marchoili); and

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- an update system coupled to receive the second set of changes and coupled to modify the second data objects in response to the second set of changes (see col. 3, lines 1-42 and col. 5, line 62 to col. 6, line 11, Marchoili).

Marchoili, however, does not explicitly disclose “a second set of changes equal to a portion of the first set of all changes”. Tso, on the other hand, discloses the synchronization of the plurality of data sets until all sets are equivalent (see col. 2, lines 56-60; col.53-65 and col. 4, lines 32-63, Tso). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Marchoili to include the step of equating the first set of data objects to the second set of data objects. The motivation of doing so would have been to provide implementing synchronization of data between applications with different data formats (see col. 2, lines 46-48, Tso).

Marchoili and Tso combination does not disclose the system of record receiving financial data. Kahn, on the other hand, discloses a centralized back-end service accesses to a central database or a system of record including financial data (see abstract; col.5, lns.18-23, Kahn). It would have been obvious to apply the financial system of Kahn into the combination system of Marchoili and Tso because it provides the flexibility and facilitate control data process (col. 6, lns. 24-31, Kahn).

Regarding claim 6, Marchoili/Tso/Kahn combination further discloses a directory server (26, Fig.2, Marchoili) coupled to receive the first data objects and coupled to provide the first data objects to the first storage area contained within the directory server; and a connection server (12, Fig.2, Marchoili) coupled to receive the first data objects from the first storage area and coupled to provide the second data objects to the second storage area within the security system.



Regarding claim 7, Marchoili/Tso/Kahn combination further discloses an event monitor coupled to receive the first set of changes made to the first data objects (see col. 4, lines 33-45, Tso); and a log application coupled to receive the first set of changes and coupled to provide the second set of changes at predetermined time intervals (see col. 3, lines 1-42 and col. 5, line 62 to col. 6, line 11, Marchoili).

Regarding claim 8, Marchoili discloses a method of operating an automatically updated information management system, comprising:

- forming a central directory having a first database having employee information (see col. 5, lines 42-47 and elements 26, 28, Fig. 2 and corresponding text, Marchoili).
- Providing a human resources system (26, Fig.2) or record external to the central directory (see Fig.2 and corresponding text, Marchoili).
- Providing a security system external to the central directory (26, Fig.2; col. 5, lines 42-61; Fig.2 and corresponding text, Marchoili)
- editing a first data object in a first device; and
- detecting changes made to the first data object in the first device (col. 5, lines 42-61; Fig.2 and corresponding text, Marchoili).
- Synchronizing the second data object with the portion of the employee information within the security system (see col. 7, line 50 to col. 8, line 7, marchoili).

Marchoili, however, does not explicitly disclose “equating a second data object to the first data object upon detection of the changes made to the first data object”. Tso, on the other

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hand, discloses the synchronization of the plurality of data sets until all sets are equivalent (see col. 2, lines 56-60; col.53-65 and col. 4, lines 32-63, Tso). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Marchoili to include the step of equating the first set of data objects to the second set of data objects. The motivation of doing so would have been to provide implementing synchronization of data between applications with different data formats (see col. 2, lines 46-48, Man-Hak Tso).

Marchoili and Tso combination does not disclose the financial information, employee information and employee asset information. Kahn, on the other hand, discloses a centralized back-end service accesses to a central database or a system of record including financial data (see abstract; col.5, lines.18-23; col. 12, lines 45-60, Kahn). It would have been obvious to apply the financial system of Kahn into the combination system of Marchoili and Tso because it provides the flexibility and facilitate control data process (col. 6, lines. 24-31, Kahn).

Regarding claim 11, Marchoili/Tso/Kahn combination further discloses executing an event services function within the first device; and logging events from the event services function (see col.5, lines 13-26, Marchoili).

Regarding claim 12, Marchoili/Tso/Kahn combination further discloses examining the logged events that affect the second data object; and updating the second data objects affected by the logged events to equate the second data objects to the first data objects (see col.5, lines36-43, Tso).

### ***Conclusion***

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

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1. Eschelbeck (US 6,553,378 B1) discloses system and process for reporting network events with a plurality of hierarchically-structured databases in a distributed computing environment.

2. Walter H. Kohler, "A survey of techniques for synchronization and recovery in decentralized computer systems.", Computer Surveys, Vol.13, No. 2, June 1981, Pages 150-183.

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hanh B Thai whose telephone number is 571-272-4029. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic can be reached on 571-272-4023. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hanh B Thai  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2161

March 10, 2005

  
UYEN LE  
PRIMARY EXAMINER